cessful outcome of the government's policy on centralised purchase of technology. In view of the above government have given freedom to entrepreneurs to select their own technology. However, government has decided to promote only such units which are prepared to commit sizable investments for suitable vertical integration with an accelerated phased manufacturing programme and which have the requisite inbuilt capacity to keep pace with the changing technology.

(d) and (e) After the issue of Press Note No. 30 (1985 series) deted 25-10-1985 inviting applications for the manufacture of VCRs|VCPs including deck mechanism and for the manufacture of microwave ovens, only two composite applications have been received and the same are under process.

Purchase of Air-craft carrier from the Soviet Union

1238. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian navy proposes to purchase a new aircraft carrier from the Soviet Union; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) and (b) INS VIKRANT shall be due for replacement in the 1990s. Various alternatives for her replacement are, therefore, being examined|evaluated by the Indian Navy.

Firing by Pakistani troops on Indians and Indian Army

1239. SHRI G. VARADARAJ:
SHRI M. KADHARSHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of times when the Pakistani troops opened fire on Indian army and Indians living on borders in different sectors during the last three years; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to prevent these?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) There have been a number of cases of unprovoked firing by Pakistani troops across the Line of Control in J&K in the last three years. It would not be desirable to disclose details. During these three years, there was one incident of firing across the international border in the Pathankot sector in 1984.

(b) Flag meetings at the local commanders' level are held, as also contacts at higher levels are made, to defuse a situation as and when the need arises.

Backing of Pak and US Governments to Afghan Guerillas and Indian Extremists

1240. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan and US Governments are continuously giving military backing to the guerillas in Afghanistan, as reported by Mr. Walikhan Kukhekmel, the tribal chief of Afridis;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government of India thereto keeping in view that Pakistan is backing extremists in India and they are being trained in US; and

(c) what steps the Government of India propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c) Government is aware of outside interference in Afghanistan. India is against both interference and intervention in the affairs of Afghanistan and favours a political settlement which takes into account

the legitimate interests of the parties involved. India supports the UN Secretary General's initiative in this regard.

Broad banding in electronics

1241. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted broad banding in several categories of electronics; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the Press Note issued by Ministry of Industry and Company Affairs, Department of Industrial Development on 25-10-1985 in the enclosed statement.

Government of India

Statement

Government of India

Deptt. of Industrial Development

PRESS NOTE NO. 29

(1985 Series)

Broad banding in electronic industry

Keeping in view the fact that in respect of certain specified industries, design and production facilities are common for many aggregates, Government have already announced schemes of broad banding in respect of 24 industries. In regard to electronic industry as a part of integrated policy for electronics, which was announced in March, 1985, it was indicated that broad banded approvals would be issued for certain specified electronic items. In pursuance to that it has now been decided to permit broad banding in the electronic industry under the following categories:—

i. Entertainment electronics, covering radio receivers, tape recorders, two-in-one/three-in-one, amplifiers, record players, record changer CC TV systems, TV sets—black and white and colour.

ii. Electronic Toys, including radio-controlled ones and games.

iii. Computer peripherals.

iv. Electronic test and measuring instruments.

v. Discrete semi-conductor devi-force from time to time.

Broad banding in the case of black and white and colour TV receivers in respect of foreign equity companies will be subject to licensing policy in force from time to time

2. Companies can now apply for manufacture of a broad category of these items instead of narrowly defined individual items, subject to the following conditions:—

1. Broad banding will be permitted only within the existing approved capacity and in the sub-category, as indicated above.

2. The scheme of board banding will not be available to an item, if reserved for small scale. However, in the case of an existing industrial undertaking already manufacturing a reserved item, the capacity will be pegged to the levels for which the unit is already licensed for such reserved item.

3. The import of components will be subject to the provisions of Import Policy in force. In the case of components which are on OGL, it will be necessary for the entrepreneur to get the phased manufacturing programme approved by Government.